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INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0940

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 001532

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA MATTHEW IRWIN AND CHRISTINE LAWSON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/17/2018

TAGS: PREL PTER LE SY UNSC EUN IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL TRIBUNAL FOR LEBANON

REF: STATE 129978

Classified By: Poloff Gabriel Escobar for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to MFA Deputy Levant Office Director Daniele Bosio and Deputy UN Office Director Leonardo Bencini December 17, urging Italy to contribute to future operations of the UN Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL). Bosio said Italy supported the mission of the tribunal and had contributed to its first year of operations. He said a contribution for years two and three was still under consideration, but pointed to budget cuts throughout the Italian government that would make identifying funds difficult. Bencini said Italy would like to make a contribution, but said the MFA would not know until after the New Year whether funds would be made available. Bencini also confirmed Italy's support for a UN Security Council Resolution extending the mandate of the UN International Independent Investigation Commission.

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